

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML

APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

S/ - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 216770

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR SPAIN FROM EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT WITH NYERERE

1. WE HAVE EVIDENCE HERE THAT TANZANIA MAY WELL BELIEVE U.S. EFFORTS WITH REGARD TO RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA ARE DICTATED BY CONCERNS ABOUT THE UPCOMING ELECTION. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD SEEK AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE TO GO OVER THE POINTS OUTLINED BELOW (IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU COULD DO THIS IN CONJUNCTION WITH A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT ON SOME OTHER SUBJECT, BUT IF NO OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF WITHIN THE NEXT 48 HOURS, YOU SHOULD REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF PRESENTING THESE POINTS). YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT POINTS YOU ARE MAKING ARE YOUR OWN; LEAVE NO IMPLICATION THAT YOU ARE ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT YOUR PURPOSE IS TO EXPLAIN U.S. POLITICAL SCENE SO THAT IT MAY HELP NYERERE UNDERSTAND THE BACKGROUND AGAINST WHICH THE SECRETARY WILL BE TRAVELING TO AFRICA.

2. POINTS TO MAKE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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(A) BLACK AMERICANS HAVE VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT IN EVERY ELECTION SINCE FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT. THAT PATTERN WILL CLEARLY CONTINUE IN THE 1976 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, AS THE POLLS ALREADY SHOW.

(B) THE REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION THEREFORE HAS VERY LITTLE TO GAIN IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL TERMS FROM A RESOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN ISSUES, INsofar AS BLACK AMERICAN VOTERS ARE CONCERNED. THERE IS, IN FACT, SOME EVIDENCE THAT A SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN PROBLEMS COULD HURT PRESIDENT FORD'S POSITION WITH SOME OF THE MORE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS THAT WOULD NORMALLY VOTE FOR THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE.

(C) IN ADDITION, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN QUESTIONS ARE LITTLE UNDERSTOOD AMONG THE GENERAL U.S. POPULACE; SETTLEMENT OF THOSE QUESTIONS WILL PROBABLY, AT BEST, HAVE ONLY MARGINAL IMPACT ON PUBLIC OPINION.

(D) IN SHORT, THE EFFORT IN WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER IS NOW ENGAGED WITH REGARD TO RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA WILL HAVE LITTLE POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT, AND MIGHT HAVE A MARGINALLY HARMFUL EFFECT, WHETHER THAT EFFORT SUCCEEDS OR FAILS.

(E) UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE U.S. EFFORT IS CLEARLY MOTIVATED SOLELY BY CONSIDERATIONS OF WHAT IS BEST FOR THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE NATIONS OF AFRICA. OUR INTERESTS AND THOSE OF OUR FRIENDS IN AFRICA WILL BE BEST SERVED BY SEEKING TO ACHIEVE NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS WHICH WILL AVOID BLOODSHED AND AT THE SAME TIME ASSURE THAT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL INVOLVED ARE PROTECTED.

2. PLEASE REPORT REACTION. ROBINSON

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NNN

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